

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Richmond, May 17, 1862.*

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 36. }

I. All applications for discharge, made by persons over 35 years of age, who may have been *drafted* since the 10th March 1862, under the Virginia laws, and assigned to military organizations serving under authority of the Confederate States, will be granted by Brigade Commanders, Regimental and Company Commanders causing to be made out, and signing, the "Soldier's Discharge," and "Final Statements," required in all cases of discharge: said papers to indicate cause for the discharge.

II. In all cases where promotion is due from seniority, and the competency of the parties entitled by position to promotion is questionable, a Board of Examiners shall be convened by Brigade Commanders to determine the candidates' capabilities of instructing and controlling the commands commensurate with the grade to which promotion is expected, as also their efficiency and perfect sobriety. All newly elected Officers will be examined before similar Boards of Examiners, to determine their competency and the confirmation of their election.

By command of the Secretary of War.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*